component like establishment and operational cost of the Universities are borne by the respective State Government. The ICAR extends academic support and limited financial assistance for development and strengthening of existing infrastructure facilities to 54 AUs, of which 43 are State Agricultural Universities and 4 Deemed Universities (directly under ICAR). The amount provided by the ICAR to SAUs, DUs and CUs with agricultural faculty during the last three years is as under:-

Year	Amount (Rs. in Lakh)	Remarks
2007-08	35850.00	Actual Expenditure
2008-09	39961.64	Actual Expenditure
2009-10	36700.00	BE

(c) The Agricultural Universities offer admission to fill around 9800 M.Sc. and 2600 Ph.D. seats. All the passed out students do not join as Agricultural Scientists, as some opt for other kind of employment or become entrepreneurs. Those students who deserve to become Agricultural Scientists follow the process of selection.

Stagnation in agricultural productivity

129. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI D. RAJA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the agricultural productivity is almost stagnant in the country for a long time;

(b) if so, the details of the productivity of cereals and pulses during the last five years and how does it compare with that in other countries; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to increase the productivity of the agricultural products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Based on the reports of Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), the tables given below depict the productivity of cereals (rice and wheat) and of pulses in India *vis-a-vis* other major producer countries of these crops from 2003 to 2007:

Rice

Country	Productivity (Kg./Hectare)				
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
1	2	3	4	5	6
India	3118	2976	3154	3190	3208

1	2	3	4	5	6
Bangladesh	3577	3536	3781	3884	3884
Brazil	3249	3557	3369	3880	3819
China	6061	6309	6253	6249	6341
Indonesia	4543	4536	4574	4620	4689
Japan	5850	6415	6648	6336	6538
Myanmar	3546	3784	3619	3759	3977
Philippines	3370	3513	3588	3684	3765
Thailand	2652	2856	2963	2906	2691
Viet Nam	4639	4855	4883	4891	4869
Wheat					
India	2610	2713	2602	2619	2671
Canada	2256	2641	2738	2610	2386
China	3932	4252	4275	4489	4781
Pakistan	2388	2373	2586	2519	2769
Russian Federation	1705	1981	1932	1953	2020
South Africa	2068	2033	2366	2752	2780
United States of America	2972	2903	2824	2603	2597
Pulses					
India	750	750	500	755	752
Bangladesh	804	843	1000	839	813
China	2167	2450	2133	3000	3571
Pakistan	815	826	757	763	763
Poland	2461	2874	2615	2500	2500
Thailand	1013	1013	1013	1013	1013
United Kingdom	3873	3699	3833	3571	3333
Viet Nam	727	727	729	729	729

While the productivity of pulses in India has remained almost stagnant at around 750 kg/hectare except in 2005, the productivity of rice and wheat have registered increase during 2007 as compared to the productivity of these crops during 2003.

(c) In order to increase production and productivity of cereals and pulses in the country, the Government has taken many initiatives such as National Food Security Mission, Rashtriya

Krishi Vikash Yojna, Integrated Cereals Development Programme, etc. Further, for increasing agricultural production and productivity in the country, researches on the improvement of crops and development of production and protection technologies are being carried out. Some of the major steps are as follows:

- Enhancing the per hectare productivity through superior varieties having high diseases resistance and high yield in different crops.
- To evolve appropriate crop management practices and formulate efficient crop based cropping systems.
- Intensification of research on the development of commercially viable hybrid technology for achieving higher yield in various crops.
- Development of varieties/hybrids suitable for mechanization, particularly in sugarcane harvesting, cotton picking etc.
- Development of molecular techniques/tools and their application in crop breeding with emphasis on genetic engineering of crop plants.

Experiment by ARI to promote production

130. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether contribution of agriculture sector in economic development of our country has been declining;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to ensure the benefits of successful experiments carried out at Agro Research Institutions in our country to reach the farmers at grass root level to promote agriculture in our country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Madam. The percentage share of agriculture sector in Gross Domestic Product at constant (1999-2000) prices during the last three years is given below:

(Rupees in Crore)

Year	Agriculture	Total GDP	% contribution
2005-06	467984	2616101	17.9
2006-07	487010	2871120	17.0
2007-08	511274	3129717	16.3

(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) carried out research on various aspects of agriculture through All-India Coordination Research Projects in State Agricultural Universities and its own ICAR institutes. A large number of field level demonstrations on farmers' fields are conducted to demonstrate the technologies at grass root level.